

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 03577 311939Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /064 W
-----026187 010644Z/21

R 311819Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1059
INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

CONFIDENTIAL TEGUCIGALPA 3577

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, OAS, HO, ES
SUBJ: BORDER DISPUTE: POTENTIAL FOR INCIDENTS

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THE OAS OBSERVER TEAM IS CONCERNED
OVER THE POTENTIAL FOR INCIDENTS IN "DOLORES" POCKET. PROBLEMS
ARE FORESEEN BECAUSE SALVADORAN GROUPS FROM OUTSIDE POCKET ARE
ENTERING AREA TO CUT WOOD, WHICH IS PROHIBITED UNDER OAS
AGREEMENT. OAS FEARS HONDURAN PATROLS WHICH APPARENTLY HAVE
ENTERED AREA IN ATTEMPT TO STOP THIS ACTIVITY (AND ALSO IN VIO-
LATION AGREEMENT) COULD TRIGGER INCIDENT, EITHER WITH CAMPES-
INOS OR SALVADORAN PATROLS. USUALLY MORE ACTIVE "SABANETAS"
POCKET, HOWEVER, SEEMS QUIET.

2. AN INCIDENT NOW WOULD BE ESPECIALLY UNFORTUNATE GIVEN THE
VISIT PLANNED TO BOTH HONDURAS AND SALVADOR IN LATE AUGUST BY
THE MEDIATOR. THE OAS IS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE A MEETING OF
REGIONAL COMMANDERS FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER TO RESOLVE
PROBLEM.

3. COMMENT: NEITHER HONDURAS, NOR PRESUMABLY EL SALVADOR ALSO,
WOULD WELCOME AN INCIDENT AT THIS POINT BECAUSE OF MORE PRES-
SING INTERNAL PROBLEMS. OAS DEMARCHE TO THE GENERAL STAFF
SOMETIMES DON'T WORK THEIR WAY DOWN TO LOCAL LEVEL. THE OAS
HOPES A REGIONAL COMMANDERS WILL BE ABLE TO HEAD OFF ANY PRO-
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BLEMS, IF A MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED.
JARAMILLO

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NNN

Message Attributes

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